



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** April 10, 2012

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Transportation Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Execution Of Agreement With New Beginnings Counseling Center For The Recreational Vehicle Safe Parking Program

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Authorize the City Administrator to execute an Agreement with the New Beginnings Counseling Center to administer the Recreational Vehicle Safe Parking Program in City-operated parking lots for Fiscal Year 2012, maintaining the current annual funding of \$43,500 from the General Fund; and
- B. Authorize the City Administrator to execute a five-year Agreement, in a form acceptable to the City Attorney, with New Beginnings Counseling Center to administer the Recreational Vehicle Safe Parking Program, effective July 1, 2012.

**DISCUSSION:**

Background

The Recreational Vehicle (RV) Safe Parking Program (Program) began in 2003 as a component of the New Beginnings Counseling Center's (NBCC) Homeless Outreach Program. The Program's focus is to reduce the number of people on the streets at night by providing safe locations for overnight parking in church and non-profit agency parking lots, with the goal of eventually transitioning them into permanent housing.

On August 2005, the City entered into an Agreement with NBCC for the operation of the RV Program using five parking spaces at the Carrillo Commuter Lot. On April 24, 2007, Council approved an expansion of the Program, adding three more spaces at the Carrillo Commuter Lot for a total of eight parking spaces at the Carrillo Lot, three new spaces at the Garden Street Visitor Center Lot, and three new spaces at the Cota Commuter Lot. On August 21, 2007, Council approved the allocation of \$36,420 from the General Fund to NBCC to hire additional staff for the permitting and monitoring of the Program. The amount of \$36,420 was established based on what NBCC needed to issue permits and provide the necessary case management and monitoring for the expansion of RV overnight parking in City lots, and the RV parking in the C-M and M-1

zones. In June 2008, funding was increased to \$43,500 to cover higher monitoring costs.

### Current Status

NBCC has successfully abided by the terms of the Agreement and has minimized impacts to parking lot operations. Permitting and monitoring efforts have been successful in gaining compliance with the terms of the Agreement thus minimizing impacts to parking lot operations and the surrounding neighborhoods. Except for complaints from one resident, during the first year of the program, staff has not received any complaints or reports from the public, or any reports from the Police Department regarding non-compliance with any terms of the Agreement.

On July 28, 2009, Council approved NBCC's request to increase the number of parking permits in the City-operated parking lots. Two additional spaces were added (five total) in the Garden Street Lot, two additional spaces were added (ten total) in the Carrillo Commuter Lot and seven additional spaces were added (ten total) in the Cota Commuter Lot bringing the total spaces to 25, the maximum that these three parking lots can safely accommodate without adversely impacting parking operations and public safety. The Harbor Commission and the Downtown Parking Committee continue to support staff's recommendation to keep this number of parking spaces available for the Program.

### Recommendation

The previous Agreement expired on December 31, 2011. In order to process outstanding invoices, staff recommends executing a new Agreement retroactively effective July 1, 2011, with a termination date of June 30, 2012. Staff also recommends execution of a five-year Agreement, effective July 1, 2012 in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

These changes will place the Agreement's effective and termination dates within the City's fiscal year, allowing for more efficient planning and budgeting. NBCC has effectively administered the Program, with a minimal number of complaints and with minimal impacts on parking operations. Staff recommends maintaining the current annual funding level of \$43,500 from the General Fund to support NBCC staff's monitoring and case management efforts.

### **FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT**

There are existing budgeted funds in the General Fund specifically for the NBCC Program. These funds will also be included in the Fiscal Year 2013 recommended budget.

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**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office